

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1.-3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) An image processing device operable in a plurality of modes of operation, comprising:

- a memory for storing pixel density data of a plurality of frames;
- a state decision controller for determining, for each frame, a state of a frame of said pixel density data stored in said memory;
- an operation panel for selecting operable ones of said plurality of modes of operation; and
- a selection prohibiting controller for comparing the state between at least two frames, as determined by the state decision controller, and for automatically prohibiting display and selection of an inoperable mode of operation of said plurality of modes of operation through said operation panel based on the result of said comparison.

5. (Previously Presented) An image processing device in accordance with claim 4, wherein said state decision controller determines a length of a frame of said pixel density data in a predetermined direction.

6. (Previously Presented) An image processing device in accordance with claim 4, wherein said state decision controller determines a frame size of said frame of said pixel density data.

7.-12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus operable in a plurality of print modes, comprising:

a memory for storing pixel density data of a plurality of frames;

a printer for reading said pixel density data stored in said memory for each frame and for printing;

a state decision controller for determining, for each frame, a state of a frame of said pixel density data stored in said memory;

an operation panel for selecting operable ones of said plurality of print modes; and

a selection prohibiting controller for comparing the state between at least two frames, as determined by the state decision controller, and for automatically prohibiting display and selection of an inoperable print mode of said plurality of print modes through said operation panel based on the result of said comparison.

14. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus in accordance with claim 13, further comprising a finisher for stapling sheets printed by said printer, wherein:

said state decision controller determines whether said pixel density data stored in said memory includes pixel density data having a frame size different than a frame size of other pixel density data stored in said memory; [[and]]

said selection prohibiting controller prohibits selecting a staple print mode through said operation panel when it is determined that said memory includes pixel density data having a frame size different than a frame size of other pixel density data stored in said memory[[,]]; and

said staple print mode being provided so that said finisher provides a staple processing.

15. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus in accordance with claim 13, wherein:

said state decision controller determines whether said memory stores said pixel density data different in frame size from other said pixel density data stored in said memory; and

said selection prohibiting controller prohibits selecting a two-side print mode through said operation panel when it is determined that said memory stores said pixel density data different in frame size from other said pixel density data stored in said memory, said two-side print mode being provided for printing said pixel density data stored in said memory on both sides of a sheet.

16. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus in accordance with claim 13, wherein:

said state decision controller determines whether said pixel density data stored in said memory all have a same frame size; and

said selection prohibiting controller prohibits selecting an economy print mode through said operation panel when it is determined that said pixel density data stored in said memory do not all have a same frame size, said economy print mode being provided for printing said pixel density data of a plurality of frames on one same side of a sheet.

17.-22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus operable in a plurality of print modes, comprising:

a memory for storing a plurality of print jobs, each print job containing pixel density data of at least two frames;

a print-job selector for selecting one of said plurality of print jobs stored in said memory;

a state decision controller for determining, for each frame, a state of a frame of said pixel density data contained in said print job selected by said print-job selector;

a printer for printing said pixel density data contained in said print job selected by said print-job selector;

an operation panel for selecting any of said plurality of print modes; and

a selection prohibiting controller for comparing the state between at least two frames, as determined by the state decision controller, and for automatically prohibiting

selecting an inoperable print mode of said plurality of print modes through said operation panel based on the result of said comparison.

24. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus in accordance with claim 23, further comprising a finisher for stapling sheets printed by said printer;

wherein said print job selected by said print-job selector contains pixel density data of a plurality of frames and said state decision controller determines whether said print job selected by said print-job selector contains pixel density data having a frame size different than a frame size of other pixel density data contained in said print job selected by said print-job selector; and

wherein said selection prohibiting controller prohibits selecting a staple print mode through said operation panel when it is determined that said print job selected by said print-job selector contains pixel density data having a frame size different than a frame size of other pixel density data contained in said print job selected by said print-job selector, said staple print mode being provided so that said finisher provides a staple processing.

25. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus in accordance with claim 23, wherein said print job selected by said print-job selector contains pixel density data of a plurality of frames and said state decision controller determines whether said print job selected by said print-job selector includes pixel density data having a frame size different than a frame size of other pixel density data contained in said print job selected by said print-job selector; and

wherein said selection prohibiting controller prohibits selecting a two-side print mode through said operation panel when it is determined that said print job selected by said print-job selector includes pixel density data having a frame size different than a frame size of other pixel density data contained in said print job selected by said print-job selector, said two-side print mode being provided for printing said pixel density data on both sides of a sheet.

26. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus in accordance with claim 23, wherein said print job selected by said print-job selector contains pixel density data of a plurality of frames and said state decision controller determines whether said pixel density data contained in said print job selected by said print-job selector all have a same frame size; and

wherein said selection prohibiting controller prohibits selecting an economy print mode through said operation panel when it is determined that said pixel density data contained in said print job selected by said print-job selector do not all have a same frame size, said economy print mode being provided for printing said pixel density data of a plurality of frames on same one side of a sheet.

27. (Previously Presented) An image processing device in accordance with claim 4, further comprising:

a display for displaying an operating state of said image processing device; and  
a display controller, responsive to said selection prohibiting controller, for displaying on said display an operable mode of operation of said plurality of modes of operation.

28. (Previously Presented) An image processing device operable in a plurality of modes of operation, comprising:

a memory for storing pixel density data of a plurality of frames;  
a state decision controller for determining, for each frame, a state of a frame of said pixel density data stored in said memory;  
a selection prohibiting controller, responsive to said state decision controller, for comparing the state between at least two frames, as determined by the state decision controller, and for determining an inoperable mode of operation of said plurality of modes of operation based on the result of said comparison; and  
an operation panel, responsive to said selection prohibiting controller, for displaying operable ones of said plurality of modes of operation for selection, said

operation panel automatically prohibiting displaying and selecting said thus determined inoperable mode of operation.

29. (Previously Presented) An image processing device in accordance with claim 28, wherein said state of said frame of said pixel density data determined by said state decision controller for each frame thereof is a frame size.

30. (Previously Presented) An image processing device in accordance with claim 29, wherein said plurality of modes of operation include at least one of economy print mode, two-side print mode, and staple print mode.

31.-35. (Canceled)